A good read adds to intrigue

THE AUDIO FILE

TOM NOLAN and DICK LOCHTE

Title: "JFK: On the Trail of the Assassins"
Author: Jim Garrison
Read by: Edward Asner
Time: Three hours, abridged
Data: Audio Renaissance; $15.95
Our rating: ★★★

Written several years ago, this first-person account of former New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of John F. Kennedy has been given a new lease on life by Oliver Stone's controversial film, "JFK," which uses it as one of its sources.

In this abbreviated form, the main points of Garrison's case against New Orleans businessman Clay Shaw and others seems impressive, mainly because of the one-sidedness of the account and the authority of Asner's gruff, underplayed good ol' boy narration. (Asner appears in the film, as a conspiratorial private detective.) The other side of the coin is the reality of the situation: Shaw was vindicated by the trial.